

Serial No. 09/807,945
Art Unit 1731

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-14 (Cancelled)

Claim 15. (Previously presented) A device for melting or refining of glasses or glass ceramics comprising:

a plurality of pipes forming a U-shape and lying next to one another so that said plurality of pipes form a cage-type skull channel having an open top, said plurality of pipes being able to be connected to a cooling medium, said cage-type skull channel for channeling a melt of the glasses or glass ceramics in a substantially horizontal flow direction; and

a high-frequency oscillation circuit having an induction coil, said induction coil being disposed about a portion of said cage-type skull channel such that said open top is free of said induction coil.

Claim 16. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 15, wherein said U shape has ends, and wherein the ends of the U-shape are joined together in a conducting manner for purposes of forming a short-circuit bridge.

Claim 17. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 15, wherein said cage-type skull channel is thermally insulated in an upper space of a furnace.

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Claim 18. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 15, further comprising an additional heating unit in an upper furnace space.

Claim 19. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 18, wherein the additional heating unit is configured and arranged to act directly on a surface of said melt.

Claim 20. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 18, further comprising a ceramic plate that is heated by said additional heating unit and gives off heat to a surface of said melt between said additional heating device and the surface of said melt.

Claim 21. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 15, further comprising a plurality of flat coils connected one behind the other and assigned to said cage-type skull channel.

Claim 22. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 21, further comprising an additional heating unit provided in a transition region defined between said plurality of flat coils and a second plurality of flat coils.

Claims 23-35 (Cancelled)